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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/825,788	04/16/2004	Zong-Qiang Tian	010094.01	9074

7590 08/26/2004  
Kosan Biosciences, Inc.  
Intellectual Property Department  
3832 Bay Center Place  
Hayward, CA 94545

EXAMINER

KIFLE, BRUCK

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1624	

1624

DATE MAILED: 08/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/825,788	<b>Applicant(s)</b> TIAN ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Bruck Kifle, Ph.D.	<b>Art Unit</b> 1624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 April 2004.
- 2a)  This action is FINAL.                      2b)  This action is non-final.
- 3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4)  Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6)  Claim(s) 1-34 is/are rejected.
- 7)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10)  The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a)  accepted or b)  objected to by the Examiner.  
    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11)  The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12)  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a)  All    b)  Some \*    c)  None of:
1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)               | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5/13/04</u> .   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

Claims 1-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

- i) The phrase “and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, esters, and prodrug forms thereof” is in appropriate Markush language because it does not present the different embodiments in the alternative form but requires all to be present. The language, such as, “or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof” is suggested.
- ii) It is unclear what the intended “esters” and “prodrug forms” look like. One cannot say which esters or prodrug forms Applicants intend.
- iii) The term “cycloalkyl” is indefinite because it is not known how many atoms make up the ring and what kind of a ring is intended (monocyclic, bicyclic, spiro, fused, bridged, saturated, etc.).
- iv) The term “heteroaryl” is indefinite because it is not known how many atoms are present, how many and what kind of heteroatoms are involved, what size ring is intended and how many rings are present.
- v) The term “heterocyclic” is indefinite because it is not known how many atoms make up the ring, which atoms are present and what kind of a ring (monocyclic, bicyclic, spiro, fused, bridged, saturated, etc.) is intended.
- vi) The term “substituted” without saying which substituents are intended is indefinite. One skilled in the art cannot say which substituents are permitted and which ones are not.

Art Unit: 1624

vii) In claims 4-6, R<sup>3</sup> is defined as a substituted alkyl group. However, R<sup>3</sup> is not permitted to have substituents in claim 1. Thus, these claims lack antecedent basis in claim 1. See also claims 10, 14-16, 20-22 and 26-28.

viii) When R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are combined to form a substituted or unsubstituted 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 membered ring, it is not known what kind of a ring is formed, which atoms are involved in the ring formation and what the degree of saturation is.

ix) In claims 11 and 12, one skilled in the art cannot say which compounds of claim 2 fall within the scope and which ones do not. When Applicants rely on experimental data, all of the result affecting conditions needs to be recited in the claim. The examiner cannot say whether these claims further limit claim 2 or not. Maybe all of the compounds of claim 2 fall within claims 11 and/or 12 becoming duplicate claims.

Claims 29-34 provide for the use of a compound, but, since the claims do not set forth any steps involved in the method/process, it is unclear what method/process applicant is intending to encompass. A claim is indefinite where it merely recites a use without any active, positive steps delimiting how this use is actually practiced.

Claims 29-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed recitation of a use, without setting forth any steps involved in the process, results in an improper definition of a process, i.e., results in a claim which is not a proper process claim under 35 U.S.C. 101. See for example *Ex parte Dunki*, 153 USPQ 678 (Bd.App. 1967) and *Clinical Products, Ltd. v. Brenner*, 255 F. Supp. 131, 149 USPQ 475 (D.D.C. 1966).

Art Unit: 1624

Claims 17, 18, 23 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claims contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Claims 17 and 18 read on inhibiting the proliferation of a target cell *in vitro*. The specification fails to teach any benefit to be gained from such actions. Is extensive experimentation required on the part of a potential infringer to determine if his use of Applicants' inhibitor falls within the limitations of applicants' claim? *In re Kirk and Petrow*, 153 USPQ 48 (CCPA 1967).

Claims 17, 18, 23 and 24 are drawn to the inhibition of a target cell, inhibition of cancer cells, treating a hyperproliferative disease and treatment of cancer generally. The specification does not provide enablement for these methods. No compound has ever been found that can treat cancers generally even though massive efforts have been directed towards this end. Since this assertion is contrary to what is known in oncology, proof must be provided that this revolutionary assertion has merits. Nearly all anticancer drugs are effective against only a limited group of related cancers. Therefore, a compound effective against cancer generally would be a revolutionary exception. Applicant is asserting that he succeeded where others have failed. Where extensive efforts have all failed, it is reasonable for the Patent and Trademark Office to require proof that the claimed invention actually works for this specific utility. It is well established that a utility rejection is proper when scope of enablement is not reasonably correlated to the scope of the claims. (*In re Vaeck* 20 USPQ2d 1439, 1444, *In re Ferens* 163 USPQ 609).

Art Unit: 1624

In re Buting 163 USPQ 689 establishes that even clinical tests showing that a compound found to be useful in the treatment of two types of cancers was not sufficient for a much broader range.

As the Supreme Court said in *Brenner v. Manson*, 148 USPQ at 696: “a patent is not a hunting license. It is not a reward for the search, but compensation for its successful conclusion.” As U.S. Court of Customs and Patent Appeals stated *In re Diedrich* 138 USPQ at 130, quoting with approval from the decision of the board: “We do not believe that it was the intention of the statutes to require the Patent Office, the courts, or the public to play the sort of guessing game that might be involved if an applicant could satisfy the requirements of the statutes by indicating the usefulness of a claimed compound in terms of possible use so general as to be meaningless and then, after his research or that of his competitors has definitely ascertained an actual use for the compound, adducing evidence intended to show that a particular specific use would have been obvious to men skilled in the particular art to which this use relates.”

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-3, 11-13, 17-19 and 23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Welch et al. (US 6,015,659). The reference teaches a generic group of ansamycins derivatives, which embraces applicants' claimed compounds (See col. 5, lines 1-44,

Art Unit: 1624

compounds and definitions for R<sup>1</sup>-R<sup>13</sup>). The claims differ from the reference by reciting specific species and a more limited genus than the reference. However, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to select any of the species of the genus taught by the reference, including those instantly claimed, because the skilled chemist would have the reasonable expectation that any of the species of the genus would have similar properties and, thus, the same use as taught for the genus as a whole. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to select the claimed compounds from the genus in the reference since such compounds would have been suggested by the reference as a whole. It has been held that a prior art disclosed genus of useful compounds is sufficient to render prima facie obvious a species falling within a genus. *In re Susi*, 440 F.2d 442, 169 USPQ 423, 425 (CCPA 1971), followed by the Federal Circuit in *Merck & Co. v. Biocraft Laboratories*, 847 F.2d 804, 10 USPQ 2d 1843, 1846 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

Similarly, claims 1-3, 11-13, 17-19 and 23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Whitesell et al. (WO 94/08578). See the genus in claim 8.

### ***Double Patenting***

Claim 16 of this application conflict with claim 1 of Application No. 10/826,445. Claim 14 of this application conflict with claim 1 of Application No. 10/826,446 and Claim 15 of this application conflict with claim 1 of Application No. 10/826,447. 37 CFR 1.78(b) provides that when two or more applications filed by the same applicant contain conflicting claims, elimination of such claims from all but one application may be required in the absence of good and sufficient reason for their retention during pendency in more than one application. Applicant


Art Unit: 1624

is required to either cancel the conflicting claims from all but one application or maintain a clear line of demarcation between the applications. See MPEP § 822.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bruck Kifle, Ph.D. whose telephone number is 571-272-0668. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mukund J. Shah can be reached on 571-272-0674. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1235.



Bruck Kifle, Ph.D.  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1624

BK  
August 24, 2004